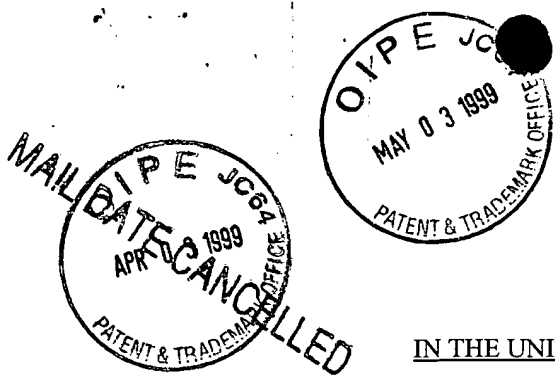


#3



PATENT

Docket No. 3553-4018

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s) or Patentee(s): Jay S. WALKER, Thomas M. SPARICO & Robert S. WISSE

Serial No. or Patent No. : 09/252,574

Group Art Unit: 2761

Filed or Issued : February 18, 1999

Examiner: TBA

For : SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR ALLOCATING BUSINESS TO ONE OF A  
PLURALITY OF SELLERS IN A BUYER DRIVEN ELECTRONIC COMMERCE  
SYSTEM

STATEMENT (DECLARATION) CLAIMING SMALL ENTITY STATUS  
37 CFR §1.97(f) AND §1.27 (c) – SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN

I hereby state that I am

- ☐ the owner of the small business concern identified below:
- ☒ an official of the small business concern empowered to act on behalf of the concern identified below

NAME OF CONCERN priceline.com Incorporated

ADDRESS OF CONCERN Five High Ridge Park, Stamford, Connecticut 06905-1326

I hereby state that the above identified small business concern qualifies as a small business concern as defined in 13 CFR §§ 121.3-18, and reproduced in 37 CFR § 1.9(d), for purposes of paying reduced fees under section 41(a) and (b) of Title 35, United States Code, in that the number of employees of the concern, including those of its affiliates, does not exceed 500 persons. For purposes of this statement, (1) the number of employees of the business concern is the average over the previous fiscal year of the concern of the persons employed on a full-time, part-time or temporary basis during each of the pay periods of the fiscal year, and (2) concerns are affiliates of each other when either, directly or indirectly, one concern controls or has the power to control the other, or a third party or parties controls or has the power to control both. I hereby state that exclusive rights under contract or law have been conveyed to and remain with the small business concern identified above with regard to the invention entitled:

SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR ALLOCATING BUSINESS TO ONE OF A PLURALITY OF SELLERS IN A  
BUYER DRIVEN ELECTRONIC COMMERCE SYSTEM

By inventor(s) Jay S. WALKER, Thomas M. SPARICO & Robert S. WISSE

described in

- ☐ the specification filed herewith
- ☒ application Serial No. 09/252,574, filed February 18, 1999
- ☐ Patent No. \_\_\_\_\_, issued \_\_\_\_\_

If the rights held by the above identified small business concern are not exclusive, each individual, concern or organization having rights to the invention is listed below\* and no rights to the invention are held by any person, other than the inventor, who could not qualify as an independent inventor under 37 CFR 1.9(c) if that person made the invention, or by any concern which would not qualify as a small business concern under 37 CFR 1.9(d), or a nonprofit organization under 37 CFR 1.9(e).

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Individual ☐ Small Business Concern ☐ Nonprofit Organization

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Individual ☐ Small Business Concern ☐ Nonprofit Organization

I acknowledge the duty to file, in this application or patent, notification of any change in status resulting in loss of entitlement to small entity status prior to paying, or at the time of paying, the earliest of the issue fee or any maintenance fee due after the date on which status as a small entity is no longer appropriate. (37 C.F.R. 1.28(b))

NAME OF PERSON SIGNING Jay S. WALKERTITLE OF PERSON IF OTHER THAN OWNER PresidentADDRESS OF PERSON SIGNING priceline.com Incorporated, Five High Ridge Park, Stamford, Connecticut  
06905-1326SIGNATURE  DATE April 9, 1999

FORM: SMALL.BUS  
Rev. 05/26/98

\* NOTE: Separate statements are required from each name person, concern or organization having rights to the invention averring to their status as small entities. (37 CFR 1.27).

#3

Docket No. 3553-4018

MAILED  
OIP E JCB4  
APR 12 1999  
PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE  
CANCELLED

OIP E JCB4  
MAY 03 1999  
PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

COMBINED DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY FOR  
ORIGINAL, DESIGN, NATIONAL STAGE OF PCT, SUPPLEMENTAL  
DIVISIONAL, CONTINUATION OR CONTINUATION-IN-PART APPLICATION

As a person name inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name,

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

**SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR ALLOCATING BUSINESS TO ONE OF A PLURALITY OF SELLERS IN A BUYER DRIVEN ELECTRONIC COMMERCE SYSTEM**

the specification of which

- a. ☐ is attached hereto
- b. ☒ was filed on February 18, 1999 as application Serial No. 09/252,574 and was amended on \_\_\_\_\_ (if applicable).

PCT FILED APPLICATION ENTERING NATIONAL STATE

- c. ☐ was described and claimed in International Application No. \_\_\_\_\_ filed on \_\_\_\_\_ and as amended on \_\_\_\_\_ (if any).

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the examination of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56(a).

I hereby specify the following as the correspondence address to which all communications about this application are to be directed:

SEND CORRESPONDENCE TO: MORGAN & FINNEGAN, L.L.P  
345 Park Avenue  
New York, N.Y. 10154

DIRECT TELEPHONE CALLS TO: Chris L. Holm  
(212) 758-4800

☐ I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code § 119(a)-(d) or under § 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate or under § 365(a) of any PCT international application(s) designating at least one country other than the U.S. listed below and also have identified below such foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate or such PCT international application(s) filed by me on the same subject matter having a filing date within twelve (12) months before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

☐ The attached 35 U.S.C. § 119 claim for priority for the application(s) listed below forms a part of this declaration.

<u>Country/PCT</u>	<u>Application Number</u>	<u>Date of filing (day, month, yr)</u>	<u>Date of Issue (day, month, yr)</u>	<u>Priority Claimed</u>
				<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
				<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
				<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO

☐ I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) of any U.S. provisional application(s) listed below.

<u>Provisional Application No.</u>	<u>Date of Filing (day, month, yr)</u>

**ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS FOR DIVISIONAL, CONTINUATION OR CONTINUATION-IN-PART  
OR PCT INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION(S) (DESIGNATING THE U.S.)**

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code § 120 of any United States application(s) or under § 365(c) of any PCT international application(s) designating the U.S. listed below.

08/889,319	July 8, 1997	Pending
US/PCT Application Serial No.	Filing Date	Status (patented, pending, abandoned)/ U.S. application no. assigned (For PCT)
08/707,660	September 4, 1996	Patented (US Pat. No. 5,794,207)
US/PCT Application Serial No.	Filing Date	Status (patented, pending, abandoned)/ U.S. application no. assigned (For PCT)

☒ In this continuation-in-part application, insofar as the subject matter of any of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the above listed prior United States or PCT international application(s) in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, § 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56(a) which occurred between the filing date of the prior application(s) and the national or PCT international filing date of this application.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or Imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

I hereby appoint the following attorneys and/or agents with full power of substitution and revocation, to prosecute this application, to receive the patent, and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith: John A. Diaz (Reg. No. 19,550), John C. Vassil (Reg. No. 19,098), Alfred P. Ewert (Reg. No. 19,887), David H. Pfeffer, P.C. (Reg. No. 19,825), Harry C. Marcus (Reg. No. 22,390), Robert E. Paulson (Reg. No. 21,046), Stephen R. Smith (Reg. No. 22,615), Kurt E. Richter (Reg. No. 24,052), J. Robert Dailey (Reg. No. 27,434), Eugene Moroz (Reg. No. 25,237), John F. Sweeney (Reg. No. 27,471), Arnold I. Rady (Reg. No. 26,601), Christopher A.

Hughes (Reg. No. 26,914), William S. Feiler (Reg. No. 26,728), Joseph A. Calvaruso (Reg. No. 28,287), James W. Gould (Reg. No. 28,859), Richard C. Komson (Reg. No. 27,913), Israel Blum (Reg. No. 26,710), Bartholomew Verdirame (Reg. No. 28,483), Maria C.H. Lin (reg. No. 29,323), Joseph A. DeGirolamo (Reg. No. 28,595), Michael A. Nicodema (Reg. No. 33,199), Michael P. Dougherty (Reg. No. 32,730), Seth J. Atlas (Reg. No. 32,454), Andrew M. Riddles (Reg. No. 31,657), Bruce D. DeRenzi (Reg. No. 33,676), Michael M. Murray (Reg. No. 32,537), Mark J. Abate (Reg. No. 32,527), Alfred L. Haffner, Jr. (Reg. No. 18,919), Harold Haidt (Reg. No. 17,509), John T. Gallagher (Reg. No. 35,516), Steven F. Meyer (Reg. No. 35,613), Kenneth H. Sonnenfeld (Reg. No. 33,285), Walter G. Hanchuk (Reg. No. 35,179), and Chris L. Holm (Reg. No. 39,227) of Morgan & Finnegan, L.L.P. whose address is: 345 Park Avenue, New York, New York, 10154; Edward A. Pennington (Reg. No. 32,588), Michael S. Marcus (Reg. No. 31,727) and John E. Hoel (Reg. No. 26,279) of Morgan & Finnegan, L.L.P., whose address is 1775 Eye Street, Suite 400, Washington, D.C. 20006; Jeffrey L. Brandt (Reg. No. 31,490) of priceline.com Incorporated whose address is: Five High Ridge Park, Stamford, CT 06905; and Dean Alderucci (Reg. No. 40,484) and Charles A. Rattner (Reg. No. 40,136) of Walker Digital Corporation whose address is: Five High Ridge Park, Stamford, CT 06905..

[ ] I hereby authorize the U.S. attorneys and/or agents named hereinabove to accept and follow instructions from \_\_\_\_\_ as to any action to be taken in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office regarding this application without direct communication between the U.S. attorneys and/or agents and me. In the event of a change in the person(s) from whom instructions may be taken I will so notify the U.S. attorneys and/or agents hereinabove.

Full name of first inventor Jay S. WALKER


Inventor's signature\*  April 9, 1999  
date

Residence 124 Spectacle Lane, Ridgefield Connecticut 06877

Citizenship USA

Post Office Address Same as residence

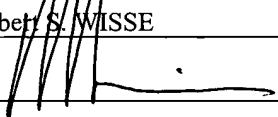
Full name of second inventor Thomas M. SPARICO

Inventor's signature\*  4/19/99  
date

Residence 200 Broad Street, Apt. 2430, Stamford, Connecticut 06901

Citizenship USA

Post Office Address Same as residence

Full name of third inventor Robert S. WISSE  
Inventor's signature\*  4/22/99  
date  
Residence 12 Pinehurst Lane, Half Moon Bay, California 94019  
Citizenship USA  
Post Office Address Same as residence

[ ] ATTACHED IS ADDED PAGE TO COMBINED DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY FOR SIGNATURE BY THIRD AND SUBSEQUENT INVENTORS FORM.

\* Before signing this declaration, each person signing must:

1. Review the declaration and verify the correctness of all information therein; and
2. Review the specification and the claims, including any amendments made to the claims.

After the declaration is signed, the specification and claims are not to be altered.

To the inventor(s):

The following are cited in or pertinent to the declaration attached to the accompanying application:

Title 37, Code of Federal Regulation, § 1.56

Duty to disclose information material to patentability.

(a) A patent by its very nature is affect with a public interest. The public interest is best served, and the most effective patent examination occurs when, at the time an application is being examined, the Office is aware of and evaluates the teachings of all information material to patentability. Each individual associated with the filing and prosecution of a patent application has a duty of candor and good faith in dealing with the Office, which includes a duty to disclose to the Office all information known to that individual to be material to patentability as defined in this section. The duty to disclose information exists with respect to each pending claim until the claim is canceled or withdrawn from consideration, or the application becomes abandoned. Information material to the patentability of a claim that is canceled or withdrawn from consideration need not be submitted if the information is not material to the patentability of any claim remaining under consideration in the application. There is no duty to submit information which is not material to the patentability of any existing claim. The duty to disclose all information known to be material to patentability is deemed to be satisfied if all information known to be material to patentability of any claim issued in patent was cited by the Office or submitted to the Office in the manner prescribed by §§1.97(b)-(d) and 1.98. However, no patent will be granted on an application in connection with which fraud on the Office was practiced or attempted or the duty of disclosure was violated through bad faith or intentional misconduct. The Office encourages applicants to carefully examine:

- (1) prior art cited in search reports of a foreign patent office in a counterpart application, and
- (2) the closest information over which individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application believe any pending claim patentably defines, to make sure that any material information contained therein is disclosed to the Office.

#### Title 35, U.S. Code § 101

##### Inventions patentable

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

#### Title 35 U.S. Code § 102

##### Conditions for patentability; novelty and loss of right to patent

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

- (a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent,
- (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States, or
- (c) he has abandoned the invention, or
- (d) the invention was first patented or caused to be patented, or was the subject of an inventor's certificate, by the applicant or his legal representatives or assigns in a foreign country prior to the date of the application for patent in this country on an application for patent or inventor's certificate filed more than twelve months before the filing of the application in the United States, or
- (e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or
- (f) he did not himself invent the subject matter sought to be patented, or
- (g) before the applicant's invention thereof the invention was made in this country by another had not abandoned, suppressed, or concealed it. In determining priority of invention there shall be considered not only the respective dates of conception and reduction to practice of the invention, but also the reasonable diligence of one who was first to conceive and last to reduce to practice, from a time prior to conception by the other ...

#### Title 35, U.S. Code § 103

##### Conditions for patentability; non-obvious subject matter

A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such